

REMARKS

The above-identified patent application has been amended and reconsideration and reexamination are hereby requested.

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (e), as being anticipated by Shrader 5,864,666.

Shrader does not teach or describe "transmitting a script for requesting information describing at least one virtual private network attribute from multiple computers providing at least one virtual private network function" or a script that has a script command. Shrader does not reveal how the monitoring information is requested.

Also, Shrader's invention covers monitoring information through firewalls. Shrader defines a firewall in part as a filter "to decide which IP packets should be permitted or denied into or out of a secure network" (column 4 lines 11-23). Applicant's invention is directed to managing a virtual private network using an extranet switch," which amongst other functions decrypts and de-encapsulates the IP packet for delivery to its destination. Applicant's extranet server has more functionality than the firewall functionality described by and intended by Shrader. Therefore, Shrader does not teach or describe using an extranet server to monitor information.

Examiner also rejected claim 10-13. These claims are distinct over Shrader based generally on the argument above and for the reasons of record. These claims should also be allowable.

Dependent claims 2-9, which depend directly or indirectly on claim 1, and dependent claims 14-20, which depend directly or indirectly on claim 13, should also be allowed. These claims add additional distinct features and are distinct at least for the reasons discussed in their respective base claims.

Attached is a marked-up version of the changes being made by the current amendment.

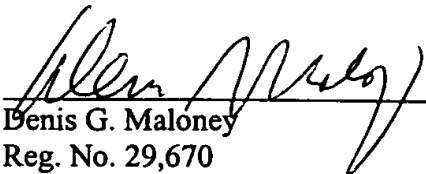
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Applicant asks that all claims be allowed. Enclosed is a \$920 check for the Petition for Extension of Time fee. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claims 1 and 11-13 have been amended as follows:

1. A method comprising:
managing a virtual private network including an extranet switch by
transmitting a script for requesting information describing at least one virtual
private network attribute from multiple computers providing at least one virtual private network
function, the script including a script command;
receiving the information [describing at least one virtual private network attribute
from multiple computers providing at least one virtual private network function];
preparing a report by organizing the received information into a table that lists
each of the multiple computers and the corresponding virtual private network attribute received
from each of the multiple computers; and
displaying the prepared report to a user.

10. A method comprising:
managing a virtual private network including an extranet switch by
transmitting a request for tunneling data to multiple computers providing virtual
private network tunnels using a script having a script command;
receiving the requested tunneling data from the multiple computers in response to
the request;
preparing a report based on the received information, the report being organized
into a table that lists the different computers and their corresponding tunneling data; and
displaying the prepared report to a user.

11. A method comprising:
managing a virtual private network including an extranet switch, by

transmitting a script for requesting information on multiple computers providing virtual private network tunnels, the information including a number of tunnels provided by each computer and a number of users configured to use the tunnels, the script includes a script command;

receiving the information [from multiple computers providing virtual private network tunnels, the information including a number of tunnels provided by each computer and a number of users configured to use the tunnels]; and

displaying the received information to a user.

12. A method of monitoring a virtual private network including an extranet switch, the method comprising:

managing a virtual private network including an extranet switch, by

transmitting a script for requesting information from multiple computers providing virtual private network tunnels, the information including usage of tunnel protocols over a period of time, the script includes a script command;

receiving the information [from multiple computers providing virtual private network tunnels, the information including usage of tunnel protocols over a period of time]; and

displaying the received information to a user.

13. A computer program product, disposed on a computer readable medium, for managing a virtual private network using an extranet switch, the computer program including instructions for causing a processor to:

manage a virtual private network including an extranet switch, including instructions to:

transmit a script for requesting information describing at least one virtual private network attribute from multiple computers providing at least one virtual private network function, the script including a script command;

receive the information [describing at least one virtual private network attribute from multiple computers providing at least one virtual private network function];

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prepare a report by organizing the received information into a table that include
the at least one virtual private network attribute received from each of the multiple computers;
and

display the prepared report to a user.